

## MANSFIELD TOWNSHIP ENVIRONMENTAL COMMISSION

### MINUTES – MAY 13, 2021

The May 13, 2021 meeting of the Mansfield Township Environmental Commission was conducted via Zoom and was called to order at 7:35 p.m. by Chair Paul Tarlowe. Participating were Paul Tarlowe, Robert Jewell, Jim McMekin, Ruth Panté, Township Committeeman Glen McGuinness, Township Clerk Dena Hrebenak and Warren Hills High School student Brielle Gonzalez. Amanda Kilyk was excused. Not responding to the invitation were Glenn Tod and Kathie Todd. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

#### Minutes

It was MOVED by Mr. McMekin to accept and approve the minutes of the April 8, 2021 meeting, seconded by Mr. Tarlowe. Mr. Jewell abstained. With no discussion or corrections, the motion carried with all in favor.

#### OLD BUSINESS

##### Bluebird Trail

The public is encouraged to participate in all activities at Cafferata Park, including the bluebird boxes which are being monitored by Ms. Misertino, Ms. Barrett and their children. They have reported that all boxes have eggs or nestlings in them at this time, though one box has tree swallows and another may be English sparrows.

##### Salem Oak Seedling

The NJ Forestry Service finally made seedlings from the historic Salem Oak available to municipalities which wanted one; Mr. Tarlowe picked up one at the state's Andover facility. Monday, April 26, DPW head John Snyder and Mr. Tarlowe planted the seedling in the township's Cafferata Park. Fencing was placed around the planting area which is not very pleasing in appearance but will protect it from deer and any human activity from the ballfield. A recent inspection showed the buds are starting to swell. Provided the seedling survives, Mr. Tarlowe has suggested a dedication event that would include the public be held in the fall when autumn colors are present.

##### Land Use Board

Mr. Jewell reported the next Land Use Board meeting will be Monday, May 17. The current Chair is moving out of state; the Township is seeking a new member for the open position on the Board. He also reported the houses at Meadows of Mansfield are selling fast; they are being constructed in 90 days start to finish. When the count reaches 80 there will be no further building permits or Certificates of Occupancy issued until the water and sewer lines are connected at the club house. Also, the street paving remains inadequate. The developer did not get the contractor to work soon enough.

#### NEW BUSINESS

##### Township Beautification Project

The Green Team is looking to enhance the appearance of the municipal building by conducting a townwide beautification contest seeking design suggestions. Landscapers can present their ideas and estimates that will include environmentally compatible plantings, rainscaping, etc. Mr. Tarlowe will share the e-mail announcement of this project.

Annual Report

The final edits are being made to the report which will be submitted to the Township Committee upon completion.

It was MOVED by Mr. Jewell to adjourn at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Ruth A. Panté

**Next meeting date:  
June 10, 2021**